

Cabin (Jean Chipp Cabin)
North side of Dakota Street
South Pass City
Fremont County
Wyoming

HABS No. WYO-33

HABS
WYO,
7-SOPAC,
6-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20005

CABIN
(JEAN CHIPP CABIN)HABS
WYO,
7-SOPAC,
6-

Location: North side of Dakota Street, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming.
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS South Pass City Quadrangle Map) 12.680820.4704180.

Present Owner: State of Wyoming.

Present Occupant: None.

Present Use: Cabin for guests at South Pass City.

Statement of If local information is correct, this structure is
Significance: the oldest cabin in South Pass City.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1869.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Legal description of property: Lot 28 on North side of Dakota Street, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming.

(Note: For further information on land ownership in South Pass City see the HABS Report on South Pass City, WYO-27.) The Jean Chipp Cabin is located on property originally owned by John Murphy and sold to Elizabeth Cosgrouse for \$100 in 1869. This property is known to have had a cabin on it at the time it was sold although there is no record of the building or owner in either the Sweetwater County Records or the Fremont County Records. Local assumption is that the present cabin was built by 1869. In 1902, the Federal Gold Mining Company made a new plat of the village of South Pass City which was based on the Wolverine Lode Claim. The plat did not include the property upon which the cabin was located. J. J. Marrin bought several cabins on public land which included the site of the Jean Chipp Cabin. In 1935, he sold the cabin to Jean Chipp. Mrs. Chipp died in 1972 and her daughter, Mrs. Jesse McCort, sold the cabin to the State of Wyoming. It is now owned by the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

4. Alterations and additions: Since the cabin came under state control there has been routine maintenance and necessary interior redecorating. No other changes are known to have taken place except for a small room added at an unknown date to the south and rear of the original structure.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Old views: None located.

2. Bibliography:

- a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Carter County, Records of Carter County, "Deed Book B,"
Dakota Territory. Western History Research Center,
Coe Library, Laramie, Wyoming.

Fremont County, Abstract of Titles for South Pass City,
Fremont County Courthouse; Lander, Wyoming.

Shaffer, Thomas, planner for the Wyoming Recreation
Commission; interview in Cheyenne, Wyoming on June
19, 1973.

- b. Secondary and published sources:

Muths, Thomas. Restoration Master Plan, South Pass City,
Wyoming. Jackson, Wyoming: Design Associates, 1972.

Prepared by John Paige
Project Historian
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a typical example of a nineteenth century frontier log cabin.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The cabin is approximately 26' x 15'. There is a storage room added to the south and west of the original cabin which is approximately 7' x 15'.
2. Foundations: There is evidence of red slate shist at the southeast front corner of the cabin. All other walls have logs going into the ground.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: The walls are lodgepole pine logs, unfinished, with rough-sawn boards covering the corners and mid-wall joints on the east and west walls. All surfaces are white-washed except the west (rear) wall.
4. Structural system: Log bearing wall.
5. Porches, stoops: Rough-sawn board stoop at east (front) entrance.
6. Chimneys: A brick chimney projects through the center of the ridge from above the south room.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The main entry door is located at the northeast corner of the east (front) wall. There is a doorway and door on the east wall of the addition.
 - b. Windows: South (side) wall and east (front) wall of cabin have six-over-six light double-hung sash. East (front) wall also has a four-by-four light horizontal sliding sash near the southeast corner. The addition has a four-light fixed sash in the west (rear) wall and an eight-light horizontal sash in the south (side) wall.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The original cabin has a very low-pitched gable roof and the addition has a shed roof. Both roofs are covered with green asphalt roll roofing.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: The roof overhangs the walls approximately 12 inches.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: There are two rooms of equal size in the original

cabin. The north room is entered from the exterior and is used as a sitting/sleeping room. The south room is used as a kitchen/eating room. The addition appears to be for storage and is entered from the exterior, as well as, from the kitchen/eating room.

2. Flooring: There are new 1 x 8 pine sheathing boards which are covered with linoleum.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Gypsum wallboard with taped joints which are painted white.
4. Doorways and doors: There is a cased opening between the two rooms of the original cabin. There is a doorway with a plywood door in the wall between the kitchen and the storage room.
5. Mechanical equipment: There is an iron cooling stove in the kitchen. It is a #816 "Prize Novelty" by Abram Cox Stove Company of Chicago, Illinois.

Electricity has been added for lights and outlets.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The structure faces east along the west side of Dakota Street with Mormon Gulch (a very narrow water drainage stream) between the building and the street. It is among a series of cabins similarly located along the street.
2. Outbuildings: A privy is located to the northwest of the building.

Prepared by J. William Rudd, Architect
Project Supervisor
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made during the 1973 Wyoming Project undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Wyoming Recreation Commission. During the project, records were made on twenty-eight (28) individual subjects and six (6) historic areas.

This project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Supervisor was Professor J. William Rudd, Architect, of the University of Cincinnati. Project Historian was John Paige, Oklahoma State University. The measured drawings were prepared by John Uhlir, University of California at Berkeley, Architect; and Student Assistant Architects Richard Duflocq, University of Cincinnati, Clayton Fraser, University of Tennessee, and Richard Wyatt, California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. This report was edited for HABS in 1977 by Candace Reed.